Bilateral discussion with United Kingdom

956. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
SHRI T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to discuss with the British Government a set of proposals forwarded by UK to discuss the bilateral ties in the key strategic and economic issues;

(b) whether the British Government has suggested greater interaction at different levels on issues such as terrorism, illegal immigration and other international agreements;

(c) if so, to what extent the Government have reached an agreement on this issue; and

(d) to what extent both countries have taken steps in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) Measures to strengthen bilateral cooperation are constantly under discussion between the two countries. There are however no specific proposals of the kind referred to by the Hon'ble Member. Both Governments continue to cooperate on issues such as combating terrorism and illegal immigration. India and UK have concluded an Extradition Treaty and established a Joint Working Group on combating Terrorism and Drug Trafficking.

Extradition Treaty with Philippines

957. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Philippines have signed an Extradition Treaty;

(b) if so, the details of the areas where both the countries have agreed to co-operate to fight against trans-national crime and terrorism;

(c) whether such treaties with other countries are also under consideration to counter world terrorism; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, the Extradition Treaty between India and Philippines was signed on March 12, 2004.

(b) The Extradition Treaty provides a legal framework for seeking extradition of fugitive offender who are charged with extraditable offences involving sentence of one year or more.

(c) Yes.

(d) It is the policy of the Government to conclude extradition treaties with as many countries as possible. Proposals are initiated after ascertaining the interest of other countries in concluding extradition treaties with India.

Restoration of a Temple in Cambodia

958. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to restore 12th century temple in Cambodia;

(b) if so, the details of the project;

(c) whether it would be funded by our country or any other agency would also share its cost;

(d) if so, the details of the action plan;

(e) whether such types of our ancient historical monuments in other lands are also proposed to be restored by our country in a similar fashion; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) The Government of India has undertaken conservation and restoration of the *Ta Prohm* monument at Siem Reap in Cambodia under ITEC Programme of the Ministry of External Affairs through the Archaeological Survey of India.

(c) The entire restoration work is to be executed by Archaeological Survey of India in consultation and coordination with UNESCO and Authority for the Protection of the Angkor and the Region of Siem Reap (APSARA).